

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for making an asset apparent to an individual, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a request from a wireless communication system for having the asset ~~comprising equipment~~ make itself apparent and providing the request to a processor, wherein the asset comprises equipment;

~~the processor for receiving the request and for generating a command to make the asset apparent, wherein the processor generates a list of available apparency actions in response to receiving the request; [[and]]~~

a transmitter for transmitting the list of available apparency actions to a remote entity, wherein the receiver receives a second request for making the asset apparent, the second request comprising a selected apparency action from the list of available apparency actions;

the processor for receiving the second request and for generating a command to make the asset apparent based on the selected apparency action; and

an interface for providing the command to a device on the asset, the device for making the asset apparent to the individual in response to the command.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the device comprises illumination circuitry.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the device comprises audio control circuitry.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a timer for providing an elapsed time to said processor, said processor for determining whether the asset was located prior to expiration of a predetermined amount of time for locating the asset.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said processor generates a message indicative of whether the asset was located prior to expiration of the predetermined amount of time, wherein said apparatus further comprises a transmitter for transmitting the message to a remote entity.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
a timer for determining the current time of day and providing the current time of day to the processor;
said processor for using the current time of day for determining a way in which to make the asset apparent.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:
a position sensor for determining a location of the asset;
wherein said request comprises a location of an individual requesting that the asset make itself apparent, and said processor is further for using the location of the asset and the location of the individual for determining a way in which to make the asset apparent.

10. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication device for making an asset apparent to an individual, comprising:

an input for allowing the individual to enter an identification code corresponding to the asset, wherein the asset comprises equipment;

an output for providing a list of available apparency actions that the asset is able to perform to the individual, wherein the input further allows the individual to select one of the available apparency options;

a processor for receiving the input and generating a request to make the asset apparent based on the selected one of available apparency actions, the request including the identification code; and

a transmitter for transmitting the request to the asset.

11. (Original) The wireless communication device of claim 10, wherein said transmitter comprises a cellular transmitter.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication device of claim ~~[[12]]~~ 10, further comprising a receiver for receiving the list of available apparency actions from a remote entity.

15. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device of claim 10, further comprising:

a position detector for determining a current location of the wireless communication device;

wherein the request further comprises the current location of the wireless device for use in determining an apparency action.

16. (Previously Presented) The wireless communication device of claim 10, further comprising:

a timer for determining the current time of day;

wherein the request further comprises the current time of day for use in determining an apparency action.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for making an asset apparent to an individual, comprising:

a receiver for receiving a request directly from a wireless communication device for having the asset make itself apparent and providing the request to a processor, wherein the asset comprises equipment;

the processor for receiving the request[[,]] and for determining how to make the asset apparent ~~and for generating a command to make the asset apparent, wherein the processor~~ generates a list of available apparency actions in response to receiving the request; [[and]]

a transmitter for transmitting the list of available apparency actions to a remote entity, wherein the receiver receives a second request for making the asset apparent, the second request comprising a selected apparency action from the list of available apparency actions;

the processor for receiving the second request and for generating a command to make the asset apparent based on the selected apparency action; and

an interface for providing the command to a device on the asset, the device for making the asset apparent to the individual in response to the command.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the device comprises illumination circuitry.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the device comprises audio control circuitry.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising a timer for providing an elapsed time to said processor, said processor for determining whether the asset was located prior to expiration of a predetermined amount of time for locating the asset.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein said processor generates a message indicative of whether the asset was located prior to expiration of the predetermined amount of time, wherein said apparatus further comprises a transmitter for transmitting the message to a remote entity.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:
a timer for determining the current time of day and providing the current time of day to the processor;
said processor for using the current time of day for determining a way in which to make the asset apparent.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17 further comprising:
a position sensor for determining a location of the asset;
wherein said request comprises a location of an individual requesting that the asset make itself apparent, and said processor is further for using the location of the asset and the location of the individual for determining a way in which to make the asset apparent.

26. (Currently Amended) A signal-bearing medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform a method for making an asset apparent, said method comprising operations of:

receiving an identification code corresponding to said asset, wherein the asset comprises equipment;

providing a list of available apparency actions that the asset is able to perform to an individual;

receiving a selected apparency action from the individual, the selected apparency action chosen from the list of available apparency actions;

generating a request to make said asset apparent, the request including the selected apparency method; and

transmitting said request directly to said asset corresponding to said identification code.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) The signal-bearing medium of claim ~~[[28]]~~ 26, further comprising operations of:

receiving the list of available apparency actions from a remote entity.

30. (Previously Presented) The signal-bearing medium of claim 26, further comprising operations of:

determining a current location of the signal-bearing medium;

wherein the operation of generating a request to make said asset apparent comprises the operation of including said current location of the signal-bearing medium for use in determining an apparency action.

31. (Previously Presented) The signal-bearing medium of claim 26, further comprising operations of:

determining the current time of day;

wherein the operation of generating a request to make said asset apparent comprises the operation of including said time of day for use in determining an apparency action.

32. (Currently Amended) A signal-bearing medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform a method for making an asset apparent, said method comprising operations of:

receiving an identification code corresponding to said asset, wherein the asset comprises equipment;

providing a list of available apparency actions that the asset is able to perform to an individual;

receiving a selected apparency action from the individual, the selected apparency action chosen from the list of available apparency actions;

generating a request to make said asset apparent, the request including the selected apparency method; and

transmitting said request to said asset corresponding to said identification code over a wireless communication network.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) The signal-bearing medium of claim [[34]] 32, further comprising operations of: receiving the list of available apparmacy actions from a remote entity.

36. (Previously Presented) The signal-bearing medium of claim 32, further comprising operations of:
determining a current location of the signal-bearing medium;
wherein the operation of generating a request to make said asset apparent comprises the operation of including said current location of the signal-bearing medium for use in determining an apparmacy action.

37. (Previously Presented) The signal-bearing medium of claim 32, further comprising operations of: determining the current time of day; wherein the operation of generating a request to make said asset apparent comprises the operation of including said time of day for use in determining an apparmacy action.

38. (Currently Amended) A signal-bearing medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform a method for making an asset apparent, said method comprising operations of:
receiving a request from a wireless communication system for having the asset ~~comprising equipment~~ make itself apparent, wherein the asset comprises equipment;
generating a list of available apparmacy actions in response to receiving the request;
transmitting the list of available apparmacy actions to a remote entity;
receiving a second request for making the asset apparent, the second request comprising a selected apparmacy action from the list of available apparmacy actions;
generating a command to make the asset apparent, the command comprising the selected apparmacy action; and

providing the command to a device on the asset, the device for making the asset apparent to the individual in response to the command.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Canceled)

41. (Original) The signal-bearing medium of claim 38 further comprising operations of:
determining an elapsed time since the request was received;
determining whether the asset was located prior to expiration of a predetermined amount of time.

42. (Original) The signal-bearing medium of claim 38 further comprising operations of:
determining an elapsed time since the request was generated;
determining whether the asset was located prior to expiration of a predetermined amount of time.

43. (Original) The signal-bearing medium of claim 42 further comprising operations of:
generating a message indicative of whether the asset was located prior to expiration of the predetermined amount of time; and
transmitting the message to a remote entity.

44. (Original) The signal-bearing medium of claim 38 further comprising operations of:
determining the current time of day;
determining how to make said asset apparent using said current time of day.

45. (Original) The signal-bearing medium of claim 38, wherein said request comprises a location of an individual requesting that the asset make itself apparent, further comprising operations of:

determining a location of the asset; and

using the location of the asset and the location of the individual for determining a way in which to make the asset apparent.